

# Western Washington University Employment Survey

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# Context

- Conducted for almost 30 years
- Annual survey, continuous data collection
- Used by:
  - Employers
  - Students
  - Career Counselors
  - Students
  - Parents
  - University departments and administrators

# Administration

- Annual report with rolling, quarterly data collection
- Targeting 3-6 months after graduation, survey data collected via:
  - online through our website
  - up to 2 emails with a link to the survey
  - mail up to 2 hardcopies of the survey
  - up to 2 phone calls
- List of non-respondents to academic departments
- Results available each April

# Results (2009–10)

- Response Rate: 54% of the 2,993 Bachelor degree graduates
- 72% reporting employment (69% last year)
- 44% employment in field-related positions (40% last year)
- Average starting salary was \$34,068 (down \$124 from last year)

# Results (2009–10)

- Majors with top average starting salaries:
  - Electronics Engineering Technology \$62,750
  - Computer Science \$55,400
  - Plastics Engineering Technology \$55,100
  - Manufacturing & Supply Chain Mgt \$50,541
  - Vehicle Engineering \$48,714
  - Bus Admin-Management \$43,667
  - Industrial Design \$43,500
  - Decision Sciences \$43,391
  - Financial Economics \$42,700
  - Accounting \$42,254

# Results (2009–10)

- Graduate & Professional Schools
  - 14.3% of undergraduates continuing their education (second highest to last year's 15.1%)
  - Admitted to competitive programs across the nation:
    - Duke University (Psychology)
    - Cornell University (Chemistry)
    - Georgetown University (Law)
    - University of British Columbia (Political Science)
    - University College London (Linguistics)
    - Vanderbilt University (Audiology)

# Survey Comments (2009–10)

- “The Career Center did a great job with setting me up with the tools I needed in order to find the job that I have”
- “You guys are amazing help when it comes to job searching”
- “I received helpful advice and positive reinforcement from the career services center.”
- “Thanks for the great services and programs you offer! They are so valuable for students!”

# Questions?

## Additional Info:

[www.careers.wwu.edu](http://www.careers.wwu.edu)

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